

# THE PARISH MESSENGER

A PERSONAL VISITOR TO THE PARISHES

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WINNIPEG, MANITOBA - APRIL 1960

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## Easter

"Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord."

—John 20:20

It would be their radiant witness the rest of their lives, how they had seen the Lord, risen all-glorious from the dead. Now they had good news for every man they met and, told and retold time without number, it would never lose that first Easter's rapture. Always it would throb and shine with the power and the glory of that Endless Life.

Seeing Him, the whole world was transfigured. Now everything was different: every person, every place, yesterday, today and all the tomorrows. Amazing it was and many-splendoured; too wonderful for words, and yet, too wonderful not to tell again and again always with vast awe and joy unspeakable.

He is risen! It is the only incomparable glory beside which all else fades to lesser light. It is the surpassing reality without which nothing could really matter at all.

See Him this Day of all days, striding down a garden path, God's gallant, victorious Son, our Saviour. Aye, and looking for all the world as if he owned them, see



Him on every road of earth, and all the reaches of outer space. The sun, His. And all the stars! And you, and I, and every man.

Now we know of a glad certainty who brings up the dawn!

See Him: the Lord! The Living Lord of all ! !

## *Lundar Parish*

After three years without a resident minister in our parish, we were fortunate to obtain the Rev. Jon Bjarman, from Iceland, who accepted our call to be our full-time pastor. Along with his wife and infant son, he arrived November 1958. His installation took place in our church February 1959, with Rev. Eric H. Sigmar, Dr. V. J. Eylands, and Rev. O. Skulason officiating.

Rev. Bjarman conducts an English service every Sunday, one of these being a family service with the Sunday School choir assisting, and he also conducts one Icelandic service a month.

In March, last year, he organized a Luther League, with our young people, which has been very active. In December the Luther League donated a Gestetner duplicator machine to the church which makes it possible to print a bulletin each Sunday and to publish a parish paper.

In June last year a class of fifteen young people were confirmed. Last August Pastor Bjarman conducted Vacation Church School which was very successful.

The highlight of our year's activities was our Mission Week, October 24th - 29th. We were pleased to have such a brilliant preacher as the Rev. O. Donald Olsen from Glenboro with us as a guest speaker during the week. The average attendance for evening services was 131. One of the results of the Mission week was that a Pastor's class for adults was formed and conducted by Pastor Bjarman for twelve weeks, and in February nine

adults were confirmed and joined our congregation. A Sunday School is held each Sunday at 11 a.m. with an enrollment of ninety children. Mrs. Leo Danielson is the Superintendent assisted by twelve teachers.

Last year we were visited by Miss E. Gillstrom in connection with the Vacation Church School and by Dr. V. J. Eylands and Mr. Halldor Bjarnason from the First Lutheran Church in Winnipeg, who held meetings with us in connection with the Mission week, and later by the Rev. O. Jack Larson and Mr. S. A. Sigurdson from Arborg in connection with Stewardship. We are grateful to all these people for their help and inspiration.

Besides serving our congregation Pastor Bjarman also serves the Trinity Lutheran Church at Camper, and the Bethel Lutheran Church at Silver Bay. He conducted services at Betel Old Folks Home at Gimli during the summer months last year.

Since our pastor arrived, the interior of our church has been redecorated; an oil conversion unit, donated by Mr. and Mrs. Leo Danielson, for the Church furnace has been installed; and an oil conversion unit has also been installed in the parsonage.

We deeply regret our great loss, in the sudden death, February 28, of a good friend and co-worker, Mr. D. J. Lindal, who has for many years been one of the best Lay workers in our church. We extend our heartfelt sympathy to his wife and family.

—MRS. KRISTIN M. GOODMAN

## *From the President's Desk . .*

We're fast approaching the Annual Convention of our Synod. This convention marks the historic 75th Anniversary of the Icelandic Synod. Last year in Selkirk our youngest congregation, St. Stephen's, invited the convention to be held in its proposed new church. Due to numerous difficulties, St. Stephen's church will not be erected by convention time. The convention will therefore be held in our Argyle Lutheran Parish, which parish had also invited the 1960 convention. Argyle Parish is noted for its outstanding hospitality to the Synod in convention assembled. This writer remembers well the fine conventions held in Argyle in 1944 and 1949. We can look forward to a parish-participating convention, June 5th to 8th, in Argyle Parish.

By the time you read these lines pastors and congregations will have received official notice of the convention from our secretary, Pastor Donald Olsen, who is also host pastor of the coming convention. In this notice is the important request of our Executive Board that ALL delegates names be in the secretary's hands by MAY 1st. This is a must. Congregations will therefore call spring meetings earlier than usual to elect delegates. If you elected your delegates at your Annual Meeting, send in the names now. All reports of officers and committees must be in the secretary's hands by May 15th. He will be mailing all reports in mimeographed booklet form to all dele-

gates at least one week before the convention. This means that delegates will be acquainted with reports before the convention and time will be saved on reading reports to worthwhile discussion of them, or in some cases simply formally adopting them.

We are happy to announce that special guests at this convention will be Dr. Franklin Clark Fry, President of the Lutheran World Federation as well as our ULCA, and Bishop Sigurbjorn Einarsson of Iceland, new primate of the State Church of Iceland. They will both preach at special anniversary services on the opening day of the convention. The first service is scheduled for 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, June 5th, with the second at 7:30 p.m. A chartered bus is being arranged to go from Winnipeg to the convention and back for opening day activities. A historical program is slated for Monday evening with former Presidents K. K. Olafson and V. J. Eylands as speakers. Tuesday evening will feature a program looking at the "Whole program of the whole Church".

Among important matters slated for discussion will be the future of Betel Home; the coming merger of Lutheran Church bodies and our Synod's relation to this merger. Many other important aspects of synodical activity will be discussed. It should be in every respect a most interesting and inspiring convention. ALL congregations of synod should have their full quota of delegates present.

—E. H. S.

## *St. Stephen's Church*

Big disappointment at St. Stephen's has been the delay in starting construction of our church. Many factors have caused the delay, such as rising building costs, and the recent "tight money" situation in Canadian economy which has made mortgage borrowing both difficult and expensive. The congregation had fervently hoped to have their church ready to host the next convention of our synod in June. Now completion date has been set for September 1st. Towards that end the Building Committee is working hard.

The congregation will celebrate its 4th Anniversary on Palm Sunday. Organized on Palm Sunday, 1956 with 100 confirmed charter members, the congregation has doubled its membership in this time, despite the loss of many members who have moved away from St. James. Present total membership (adults and children) is over 350 of which 200 are confirmed members and more than 150 children. On Palm Sunday there will be an "Open House" at the

congregation's parsonage and adjacent Parish House, at which time both the parsonage and the Parish House will be formally dedicated.

Over 100 people attended the annual meeting of the congregation on Feb. 14th which began with a fellowship dinner. Mimeographed reports were mailed to each member one week before the meeting. These were discussed and adopted at the meeting. New projects discussed were the formation of Boy Scouts, Cubs, Girl Guides and Brownies. The men's organization of the congregation, "Men of St. Stephen's", was given the responsibility of initiating these new organizations and already a Boy Scout Troop has been formed. Another new project which may be initiated is the organization of a week-day Kindergarten for next Fall with classes to be held in the Parish House.

Again this year as has become tradition, Easter's celebration will begin with a Sunrise Service with Holy Communion, and followed by a Fellowship Breakfast.

## *Church Vocations*

The Icelandic Synod, through the Committee on Church Vocations, is endeavoring to make the challenging needs of the church known to our young people.

On March 7th, a Fellowship Hour was held at the First Lutheran Church for the students of our Synod who are attending the University and Colleges, etc., in Winnipeg. There was a fine response in both interest and attendance. The following participated in the program: The Rev. Eric Sigmar, President; Dr. V. J. Eylands, Rev.

R. Magnuson and Sr. Laufey Olson.

On March 27th, a Church Vocation Conference, sponsored by the Augustana, Western Canada and Icelandic Synods, was held at First Lutheran Church for boys and girls of Senior High and University age. Again there was a fine response in interest and attendance. The following from our Synod participated in the program: The Rev. Eric Sigmar, President; Dr. V. J. Eylands, the Rev. J. Larson and Sr. Laufey Olson.

## *Youth — Your Church Is Calling*

Young people are urgently needed NOW for the work of the church.

### **A. Ordained Ministry:—**

429 pastors are needed NOW by synods of the U.L.C.A. Within the next five years 1500 more will be required beyond the number graduating from our seminaries. "MEN FOR THE MINISTRY" is the call now being made in our United Lutheran Churches in Canada and in the United States.

### **B. Parish Staff:—**

550 qualified men and women are needed by U.L.C.A. congregations for service as parish workers, secretaries, directors of Christian education, musicians, teachers, etc.

### **C. Welfare:—**

525 qualified men and women are needed to fill the personnel ranks of Lutheran welfare as case workers, social workers, aides, nurses, counsellors, camp directors, doctors, housemothers and administrators.

### **D. Overseas Missions:—**

14 lay personnel are needed by the U.L.C.A. for its overseas missions. These missionaries will serve as teachers, nurses, doctors, social workers, parish workers, technicians and other professional leaders.

### **E. Education and Other Church Work:—**

More than 100 qualified men and women are needed in the U.L.C.A. educational programs as professors, writers, business managers, counsellors, and other specialists.

The serious shortage of pastors is a result of:

1. our growing populations increase at the net rate of 1 every 12 seconds:

a. Current population for Canada: 16,887,000 and is predicted to be 25,000,000 by 1975.

b. Current population for U.S.A. 172,300,000 and is predicted to be 225,000,000 by 1975.

2. Our moving populations: the mobility rate is one change of residence for each U.S. citizen every three years. This has important implications for our evangelism and mission efforts.

3. Our growing church: in 1959 a total of 65 home mission congregations were established.

4. Our aging pastors who retire from active service; economic conditions; complex society requiring specialized ministries and other factors.

Young people, God is calling today for more laborers! More men are needed! More women are needed! Hundreds of young people are needed for the work of the Church! Will YOU answer the call? Will YOU respond to the need? Will YOU be a channel for His Holy Spirit into the lives of people to call, to invite and to serve?

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## *Coming Events*

The Annual Meeting of the Lutheran Women's League will be held in the Lunder Parish on May 27, 28 and 29.

The Annual Convention of the Viking Luther League will be held in Gimli Church, May 13 - 15th. All local Leagues are entitled to send five official delegates as well as visitors.

## *Gimli Parish*

The Evangelism Committee mailed letters asking all members to attend with a guest, if possible, during Lent. Good attendance has been reported as many parishioners came to benefit from the teachings and leadership of Pastor K. Simundsson. In addition to regular morning services at eleven at Gimli and afternoon services on alternate Sundays at Arnes and Husavick, Pastor Simundsson holds services weekly, in Icelandic, at the Betel Home, and special Icelandic services once a month on Sunday evening at the Gimli Church. A weekly Bible Class is also in session.

The ladies of the church sponsored a World Day of Prayer under the inspiration of Mrs. Simundsson. Ladies from the three women's groups took part in the afternoon service and children from grades six to eight conducted the

evening service. Both services were worshipfully handled and were much enjoyed by all who attended.

The Ladies' Aid began a new type of devotional program at their monthly meetings. Africa was studied the first month and Japan the second.

The annual meeting was held January 24th and the treasurer reported expenditures of around \$8,000 and a small surplus. Arthur Seaby was re-elected to the board and L. C. Neville and Arthur Washburn are the new members elected at this meeting.

The Gimli Parish extends its good wishes for a joyous and worshipful Easter Season to all members of the Icelandic Synod.

—ETHEL HOWARD

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## *Synod Convention — June 5 - 8*

The 75th Anniversary Convention of the Icelandic Evangelical Lutheran Synod will begin with two services on Sunday, June 5, in the Argyle Lutheran Parish. In the afternoon the Icelandic Anniversary Service will be held in the Grund Church with the Bishop of Iceland, The Most Reverend Sigurbjorn Einarsson, preaching the sermon. The Bishop will be joined by President Eric H. Sigmar and the Rev. E. Brynjolfson in leading

the services. In the evening the English Anniversary Service will be held with Dr. Franklin Clark Fry, President of the United Lutheran Church in America preaching the sermon. After each of the services greetings will be received by some of our guests, in honor of the Synod's Anniversary. We encourage everyone who finds it possible to be in Argyle on June 5th, to come to these wonderful events.

## Argyle Parish

1959 was an important year in the life of our congregation as two very important and historic celebrations were held in this parish.

At Grund on June 25 the people of the congregation celebrated the 70th anniversary of the building of the Grund Church by having a service with the present Pastor O. Donald Olsen and three former Pastors — K. K. Olafson, J. Fredrickson and E. H. Sigmar, taking part. Many former members of the congregation attended and it was a wonderful afternoon of spiritual worship together, commemorating the fine work of our early pioneers.

A strong desire for the need of a place to worship led the early pioneers to plan and build a suitable edifice midway between where Baldur and Glenboro now stand and in the middle of the district as it was then. There were two small congregations of Bru and Grund in 1888 but no place of worship. The people decided to build a church at Grund and thus have both congregations use the same building. On Dec. 16, 1888, Jon Bjornson announced that the committee had decided to build one church. During the summer of 1889 the Grund Church was built with donations of work and money by the members of the two congregations.

The foreman in charge of construction was Baering Hallgrimson and two of the main carpenters were Arni Sveinnson and Christian Johnson.

The Church called 'Frelsis Kirkja' is built on one of the most scenic spots of Manitoba. 'Grund' is an

Icelandic word meaning 'grassy plain'. There are groves of trees and a beautiful little lake beside the church.

The church is beautifully finished and has a large seating capacity. There is a mezzanine floor at the back for seating when the congregation is large. Whenever there is a big celebration for all the Lutheran churches of the parish it is held at the 'Grund' Church.

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The congregation of Bru celebrated the 75th anniversary of the formation of the congregation on July 5th, 1959. Beside the present minister, Pastor O. D. Olsen, three former ministers of the parish took part: Rev. K. K. Olafson, Rev. E. H. Sigmar and Rev. J. Frederickson.

The first meeting of the congregation was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Bjorn Walterson on New Year's Day, 1884. Thirty-six persons agreed to form the first Icelandic Lutheran Congregation. Within a year the congregation had grown to 90 members.

The first deacons of the congregation were Bjorn Jonsson, Kristjan Johnson and Jon Olafson. The first trustees were Bjorn Jonsson, Skafti Arason and Skuli Anderson.

Discussions and plans for a church in the district began in 1906. Three years later the decision was made, and in 1910 it became a reality — the church was built, and the dedication took place on Nov. 6th of that year.

This is a beautiful church with a seating capacity of around 200. The woodwork and furnishings are  
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*Argyle Parish (continued from Page Seven)*

of beautiful oak and the stained glass windows of a rare color are of the finest. It has been described by visitors as one of the most beautiful country churches they have seen. In 1958 the church was re-decorated inside, and beautiful carpeting was laid down the aisle as a memorial to the late Mrs. T. H. Hallgrimson. This year the new carpet was placed around the altar. The carpet was donated by a number of families of Frikirkju Congregation. A carpet was also placed in the vestibule.

The Anniversary Service was well attended by many former residents of Bru and visitors from other parishes. Elmer Nordal of Winnipeg, formerly of Bru, sang several solos. Everyone gathered in the Bru Hall for a fellowship hour where 36 special guests, people of Bru Congregation and former members over 75 years of age, sat at a special table as guests of the congregation.

It was wonderful to see so many of our old friends able to be there.

Speeches were in order and telegrams and messages read after everyone had had a fine lunch. A sing-song of favorite Icelandic songs was had. Arni Stefanson, a former Bru resident, spoke very well of his first memories of this congregation.

I do not want to let the opportunity pass without saying a few words about a few of the wonderful Sunday School teachers who were responsible for so much of our Christian education. Three of the teachers, who impress me as having done a wonderful work are:

Lilja Oliver (Mrs. Albert Oliver) who taught the Kindergarten Class, Margret Josephson (Mrs. H. Josephson) who taught the Intermediate Class for many years and Gudny Frederickson (Mrs. Pall Frederickson) who taught the senior class or Confirmation Class. There have been countless others and even now many fine teachers but I deemed these worthy of mention.

I also wish to mention here the fine work of Mr. and Mrs. Conrad Nordman in the church. Conni played the organ in the church almost from its beginning to his death in 1958.

The congregation is not as large now as it was but the people work hard, give of their time and money to keep up a very successful work. I think they should be commended for their fine co-operation.

The congregation as a whole was very happy to see so many guests and former residents of Bru attend this memorable occasion.

Bru will be celebrating the fifty year anniversary of the church building this year (1960).

☆ ☆ ☆

The Glenboro Congregation celebrated the 40th anniversary of the building of their church on Oct. 18th. The choir sang beautiful anthems, and Pastor O. D. Olsen assisted by the President of the Icelandic Synod, Rev. Eric H. Sigmar, conducted the service. A fine solo was also sung by Rev. Sigmar. A fellowship hour was held afterwards in the basement of the church with a dainty lunch served.

—H. G. GUNNLAUGSON

## *New Pastor*



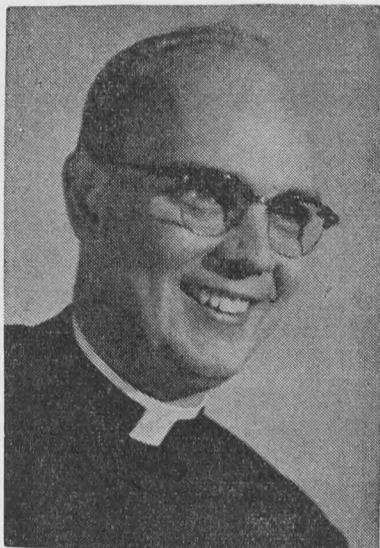
**The Rev. Hjalti Gudmundsson**

The Rev. Hjalti Gudmundsson arrived in Mountain Parish, North Dakota on Dec. 1st, 1959. On Dec. 16th he was formally installed as pastor of the seven-congregation parish (five within the synod) by officers of the synod at a festive service in the historic Vikur Church at Mountain. Dr. V. J. Eylands, synod vice-president, preached the charge to the pastor, and synod president Rev. Eric H. Sigmar charged the parish. Pastor Jon Bjarman of Lundar was liturgist, and Rev. Ingthor Indridason of Langruth served as Lector. Following the service a fine reception

was held in the attractive church parlors of the Vikur Church.

Pastor Gudmundsson comes to us from Reykjavik, Iceland. He was recently ordained by Iceland's new Lutheran bishop, Rev. Sigurbjorn Einarson, although he graduated from the Theol. School some years previous. He worked for a time in one of Reykjavik's banks. He was also baritone soloist in the Cathedral in Reykjavik. Pastor Gudmundsson came to his new life's work in Mountain with his wife, Salome, and their daughter, Ingibjorg. We welcome them to our synod and its activity.

## *New Pastor*



**The Rev. Richard E. Magnuson**

Rev. Richard Magnuson arrived in Winnipeg in early February to begin his duties as the newly-called pastor of the new "Riverton Parish" made up of our congregations at Riverton, Hecla, and Hnausa. This parish, is as most of us know, a new parish made up of congregations formerly in the Arborg-Riverton and Gimli parishes. Pastor Magnuson was formally installed as pastor of the parish at a well-attended service on March 13 in the Riverton Church. Former pastor of Riverton and Hnausa, Rev. Jack Larson conducted the service, with Dr. V. J. Eylands preaching the charge to the pastor and Rev. Eric Sigmar preaching the charge to the parish. President

Sigmar and Vice-President Eylands conducted the "Service of Installation". Following the service a crowded and interesting reception was held in the lovely new parsonage which is adjacent to the church. The parsonage was completed just before the pastor's arrival and is modern and convenient in every way.

Pastor Magnuson comes to us from the Pacific Synod, having served a congregation in Salem, Oregon, prior to coming to Riverton. He is a native of Omaha, Nebraska, studied at the University of Washington, in Seattle and Pacific Luth. Theol. Seminary in Berkeley, Calif. His wife is Ingrid and they have two young daughters. Welcome to our synod!

## *Lutheran Merger*

All readers of the *Parish Messenger* have heard something of the merger being discussed and planned among our Lutheran Church bodies in North America. The one with which we as a synod are most concerned is the one that involves our United Lutheran Church. Our ULCA has been discussing merger with three other major church bodies for the past five years. The discussions have become more concrete now and a proposed constitution for the "New Church" has been prepared and adopted by the "Joint Commission on Lutheran Unity". This Commission is made up of representatives from the four church bodies and they have been given direction from their respective groups to work for union at the earliest possible date. All four of these major church bodies will be asked to approve the proposed constitution at their 1960 conventions. Our ULCA meets in Atlantic City in October. At the 1958 convention in Dayton the delegates moved unanimously that the Commission continue working for merger of the four groups. The Commission has met once every two months the past two years and now have ready all machinery necessary to bring the New Church body into actual formation. It seems likely that all four present church groups will approve the constitution at their 1960 conventions. Then the synods making up the ULCA will vote on the con-

stitution and the merger as a whole at their 1961 conventions, and if a two-thirds vote is received the new church will be formally organized in the summer of 1962, and will begin to function officially on Jan. 1, 1963.

The proposed name of the new church will be "LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA". Its membership will be over 3,000,000 members. The ULCA alone has almost 2½ million members, the Augustana Lutheran Church (formerly Swedish Lutheran) has over one-half million members, and the other two groups AELC (formerly Danish) and FELC (formerly Finnish) have under fifty thousand members each. The new "Church" will divide itself into 30 proposed geographical synods, three of them in Canada and 27 in the USA. The Canadian synods will be "West Canada", "Central Canada", and "Eastern Canada" or names similar to this. Nomenclature and other detail matters have not all been completely discussed and will be up for discussion at the various forthcoming conventions.

What about our Icelandic synod in this new merger proposal? Since the ULCA itself goes out of existence, its component synods will likewise be changed in make-up. Our synod presently has congregations scattered over a large part of the continent. Our congregations in the new merged church—"Lutheran Church in America"—will find themselves in more than one of the new district or geographical synods. Our congregations in Manitoba, for example, will become

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## *Lutheran Merger* (Continued from Page Eleven)

part of a geographical synod probably called "Central Canada Synod", made up of former ULC, Augustana, AELC and FELC congregations in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Ontario to the Lakehead. Our North Dakota congregations would be in a geographic synod probably called "Red River Valley Synod", comprising North Dakota, South Dakota, and the western strip of Minnesota. Our Minnesota parish would become part of a new "Minnesota Synod". And our congregations at the West Coast would be part of a "Pacific Northwest Synod". At our 1961 convention we will be given the privilege of voting "yes" or "no" to the proposed merger. It would be to the distinct advantage of all congregations to belong to a synod that is geographically sensible, and made up of enough congregations to have a full-time president and other

officers.

However, in order to retain some of our former identity, the merger Commission is suggesting to ethnic or formerly linguistic synods, such as ours, that we organize "linguistic conferences". These conferences would not have any administrative duties, but they would meet annually or once every two years to discuss matters of mutual interest. (Such a conference would be called "Icelandic Lutheran Conference", or "Conference of Icelandic Lutheran Churches"). Such a conference would allow us to maintain our historic cultural ties as congregations, and our present fraternal relationship with the Lutheran Church of Iceland.

This total matter of Lutheran merger and our part in it will be thoroughly discussed at this coming synod convention. —E. H. S.

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## *Sunrise Lutheran Camp*

At a recent meeting of the Sunrise Lutheran Camp committee the coming season's schedule was discussed. The following dates were tentatively set:

July 3 - 9th — Senior Camp for young people 15 and over.

July 10 - 17th — Intermediate Camp for young people 12 - 14.

July 18 - 25th — Girls, 9, 10, 11.

July 26th - Aug. 2nd — Boys and Girls, 7 and 8.

Aug. 3rd - 10th — Boys, 9, 10, 11.

Printed schedules will soon appear giving detailed information. The Committee looks forward to a wonderful camping season, and is currently engaged in arrangements and preparations. Plan now to send your children or young people to one of the above listed camping weeks, for Christian fellowship, inspiration, Bible study, and recreation.

## *Langruth Parish*

Rev. W. Bergman conducted our Evangelism Mission and his simple and earnest manner left a great impression on his hearers. We consider the effort to have been a real success. We say this without any degree of pride but with the knowledge that our work and our prayers brought forth good results. The committee, headed by Pastor Ingthor Indridason, worked well and diligently for the glory of God and showed by their work how they felt on performing for Him. As a result of this Mission, Pastor Indridason has a pastor's class of 15.

Christmas was a busy time as always. A Christmas concert was held the Sunday before Christmas and the children were at their best. We endeavored to have gowns for



all the children and as each year passes we intend to add to the wardrobe. The children all brought bags of candy for Betel.

—E. H. BJARNARSON

## *Vancouver Parish*

At the annual meeting of this congregation in October, G. J. Henrikson was elected President of the Council. A healthy growth and interest was reported in all departments. The W.A. also held their annual meeting, winding up a very successful year. Mrs. Nygaard was re-elected president.

Christmas was a happy and busy time in our church. It began with the Sunday School concert on December 20. As always it was a real joy to watch and listen to the happy youngsters. An Icelandic service was held on Christmas Eve and an English service on Christmas morning. On December 27, every seat in the church auditorium was filled, when the choir led

in the singing of old and new favorite carols. As of former years, Mr. Thorlacius did a fine job of decorating Christmas trees, one in the Church, the other in the lower auditorium.

Rev. Halldor Kolbeins and his wife Lara from Vestman Isles, Iceland, have been in Vancouver on an extended visit with Rev. Kolbein's brother, Bjarni. Rev. Kolbeins preached to the congregation on January 3.

Rev. E. S. Brynjolfson travelled to Victoria on December 27, via air, to conduct a Christmas Church Service there for the Icelandic group.

—GUDLAUG JOHANNESSEN

## *Back Issues of Parish Messenger Received by Synod*

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Thanks to the kindness of Mrs. G. J. Oleson of Glenboro, Manitoba, our Synod has received many of the back issues of the Parish Messenger. Every single copy of the Parish Messenger for the first five years was received as a part of the records of Mrs. G. J. Oleson, who for so many years was a leader of the Glenboro Lutheran Church. This is a very valuable gift as the Synod had no collection of back issues.

Now we would ask the readers to help us if you can. In order to make our record complete we would ask you to help us find some of its back issues which we don't have. These are:

JANUARY 1949 — Vol. 5, No. 1.

JUNE 1949 — Vol. 5, No. 9.

JULY 1950 — Vol. 6, No. 8.

SPRING 1952 — Vol. 8, No. 1.

SUMMER 1952 — Vol. 8, No. 2.

JULY 1954 — Vol. 9, Nos. 7, 8 and 9.

FALL or SUMMER 1954 — Vol. 10, No. 1.

SPRING or MARCH 1955 — Vol. 10, No. 3.

Any and All Issues for 1955 and 1956.

SPRING 1957 — CHRISTMAS 1957.

SPRING 1958 — FALL 1958.

JUNE 1959.

If you have any of these issues and would give them to Synod it would be much appreciated. The Synod plans to put all the issues into a bound volume. If you can help us would you please contact Rev. O. D. Olsen, Box 337, Glenboro, Manitoba.

# General Benevolence Receipts

Year Ended 31st December, 1959

|                                | Apportionment | Received    |
|--------------------------------|---------------|-------------|
| First Lutheran, Winnipeg ..... | \$ 4,325.40   | \$ 2,150.00 |
| Icelandic, Vancouver .....     | 1,287.90      | 1,185.45    |
| Braethra, Riverton .....       | 1,166.40      | 223.38      |
| Calvary, Seattle .....         | 1,093.50      | 1,645.30    |
| Selkirk, Selkirk .....         | 2,007.18      | 462.90      |
| Gimli, Gimli .....             | 1,287.90      | 519.56      |
| Ardal, Arborg .....            | 1,122.66      | 1,172.24    |
| Lundar, Lundar .....           | 879.66        | 13.50       |
| St. Paul's, Minneota .....     | 782.46        | 1,003.94    |
| Vikur, Mountain .....          | 772.74        | 463.06      |
| Herthubreith, Langruth .....   | 685.25        | 437.00      |
| St. Peter's, Svold .....       | 607.50        | 241.50      |
| St. Stephen's, St. James ..... | 777.60        | 1,482.84    |
| Vidalins, Hensel .....         | 510.30        | 296.33      |
| Geysir, Geysir .....           | 471.42        | 263.60      |
| Breithvikur, Hnausa .....      | 383.94        | 41.95       |
| Glenboro, Glenboro .....       | 291.60        | 291.00      |
| Mikleyar, Hecla .....          | 335.34        | 100.00      |
| Silver Bay .....               | 218.71        |             |
| Immanuel, Baldur .....         | 306.18        | 230.00      |
| Fjalla, Milton .....           | 335.34        | 200.00      |
| Vidir, Vidir .....             | 291.00        | 151.70      |
| Arnes, Arnes .....             | 306.18        | 19.00       |
| Lincoln, Ta unton .....        | 247.86        | 249.00      |
| Brown .....                    | 218.70        |             |
| Hallson, Hallson .....         | 218.70        |             |
| Vidines, Husavick .....        | 199.26        | 25.00       |
| Frikirkju, Bru .....           | 179.82        | 179.00      |
| Concordia, Churchbridge .....  | 106.92        | 25.55       |
| Frelsis, Grund .....           | 87.48         | 12.48       |
| Trinity, Pt. Roberts .....     | 136.08        | 136.08      |
| Gardar, Gardar .....           |               | 85.05       |
|                                | <hr/>         | <hr/>       |
|                                | \$21,641.58   | \$13,307.01 |

